Amendments to the Drawings

The attached sheet of drawings include proposed changes to Fig. 3 and replace original sheet 3 including Fig. 3. In Fig. 3, the text in step S350 has been corrected to recite: "MAIN POWER OUTPUT ~~BELOW~~ BEYOND V_{TH2}?".

Attachments: Annotated sheets showing proposed changes

REMARKS

Amendments to the specification and Abstract

The language of paragraph [0009] of the specification and of the abstract has been corrected by canceling the terms "*circuit block ~~with high power consumption~~*", which introduced unclarity in the specification. Applicants submit that the description at paragraph [0015] to the effect that the circuit block "*consumes the majority of power of the portable electronic device*" is a clearer statement than the deleted language.

Further, the terms disconnect "*to a circuit block*" have been replaced by disconnect "*from a circuit block*" for clarity.

No new matter has been added.

Amendments to the drawings

Figure 3 of the drawings has been corrected for clarity purpose, by reciting for step S350: "MAIN POWER OUTPUT ~~BELOW~~ BEYOND V_{TH2}?" in conformity with the language of paragraph [0016] of the specification. No new matter has been added.

Amendments to the claims

The language of claims 1, 11, 13, 18 and 20 has been corrected for clarity by canceling the terms "*circuit block ~~with high power consumption~~*".

Further, the language of claim 20 has been clarified by reciting that the method relates to "*an ~~portable~~ electronic device comprising a circuit block, a power detection module, a timing unit, a main power source and a backup power source, recovering from a power failure in ~~a~~the main power source, wherein the main power source is selectively coupled to the circuit block, and the power detection module and timing unit are coupled to the backup power source*".

A new claim 21 has been added to recite that the circuit block of claim 1 "*consumes the majority of power of the portable electronic device*" of claim 1. New claim 21 is supported by the application as filed, for example paragraph [0015] of the specification.

No new matter has been added.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 1-7 and 9-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 5,551,077 to Oda in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,795,913 to Ricordel; and claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oda in view of Ricordel and further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,036,532 to Metroka. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Claim 1

The Examiner asserts that item 4 of Fig. 1 of Oda reads both on the *"power detection module"* and the *"power management unit"* of claim 1, that item 2 of Fig. 1 of Oda reads on the *"main power source"* of claim 1, that clock 6 of Fig. 1 of Oda reads on the *"timing unit"* of claim 1, and implies that Oda only differ from claim 1 for failing to explicitly show using a processor to turn off main power and reconnect main power.

Applicants respectfully disagree, and note that among numerous other differences, the Examiner has failed to show that Oda teaches a processor between the power detection module and the timing unit or the power management unit, for receiving the interrupt signal generated by the power detection module and for asserting in response a turn-off signal directed to the power management unit and an enable signal directed to the timing unit. Applicants therefore submit that the Examiner has at least failed to show that Oda discloses or suggests *"a processor, responsive to the interrupt signal, for asserting a turn-off signal and an enable signal"*, wherein the turn-off signal is directed at a power management unit and the enable signal is directed to a timing unit, as recited in claim 1.

The Examiner further asserts that item 15 of Fig. 1 of Ricordel reads on the *"main power source"* of claim 1, that item 17 of Fig. 1 of Ricordel reads on the *"backup power source"* of claim 1, that item 20 of Fig. 1 of Ricordel reads on the *"power detection circuit"* of claim 1, and that item 10 of Fig. 1 of Ricordel reads on the *"processor"* of claim 1.

Applicants respectfully disagree, and note that among numerous other differences, the Examiner has failed to show that Ricordel teaches that the processor 10 is connected to a timing unit and a power management unit for, in response to an interrupt signal generated by the power detection module, asserting a turn-off signal directed to the power management unit and an enable signal directed to the timing unit. Applicants therefore submit that the Examiner has at least failed to show that Ricordel discloses or suggests *"a processor, responsive to the interrupt signal, for asserting a turn-off signal and an enable signal"*, wherein the turn-off signal is directed at a power management unit and the enable signal is directed to a timing unit, as recited in claim 1.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner has failed to show that any combination of Oda and Ricordel would have led one of ordinary skill in the art to a device as claimed in claim 1, and in particular comprising *"a processor, responsive to the interrupt signal, for asserting a turn-off signal and an enable signal"*, wherein the turn-off signal is directed at a power management unit and the enable signal is directed to a timing unit.

Should the Examiner disagree and maintain that item 4 of Fig. 1 of Oda reads both on the *"power detection module"* and the *"power management unit"* of claim 1, that item 2 of Fig. 1 of Oda reads on the *"main power source"* of claim 1, that clock 6 of Fig. 1 of Oda reads on the *"timing unit"* of claim 1, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.104(c)2, to clearly and specifically point out what features in Oda reads on:

-an *"interrupt signal"* asserted by the power detection module if the detected output characteristic is below a first threshold value;

-a *"processor, responsive to the interrupt signal, for asserting a turn-off signal and an enable signal"*;

-an *"enable signal"*, asserted by the processor in response to the interrupt signal and directed to the timing unit;

-a *"notification signal"*, asserted at a predetermined time interval by the timing unit when the enable signal is asserted; and

-a *"turn off signal"* which, when asserted, causes the power management unit to disconnect the main power source from a circuit block.

Further, should the Examiner maintain that item 15 of Fig. 1 of Ricordel reads on the *"main power source"* of claim 1, that item 17 of Fig. 1 of Ricordel reads on the *"backup power source"* of claim 1, that item 20 of Fig. 1 of Ricordel reads on the *"power detection circuit"* of claim 1, and that item 10 of Fig. 1 of Ricordel reads on the *"processor"* of claim 1, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.104(c)2, to clearly and specifically point out what features in Ricordel reads on:

-an *"interrupt signal"* asserted by the power detection module if the detected output characteristic is below a first threshold value;

-an *"enable signal"*, asserted by the processor in response to the interrupt signal and directed to the timing unit;

-a "timing unit", responsive to the enable signal, for asserting a notification signal at a predetermined time interval when the enable signal is asserted, wherein the timing unit is directly powered by the backup power source;

-a *"notification signal"*, asserted at a predetermined time interval by the timing unit when the enable signal is asserted; and

-a *"turn off signal"*, asserted by the processor in response to the interrupt signal and directed to a power management unit and which, when asserted, causes the power management unit to disconnect the main power source from a circuit block.

Applicant respectfully reminds the Examiner of the requirements of MPEP 2143.03 that "[t]o establish *prima facie* obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. *In re Royka*, 490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974). All words in a claim must be considered in judging the patentability of that claim against the prior art. *In re Wilson*, 424 F.2d 1382, 1385, 165 USPQ 494, 496 (CCPA 1970)." (emphasis added) The Examiner has not made, and indeed cannot make, a *prima facie* showing that a combination of Oda and Ricordel would have led one skilled in the art to a device as recited in claim 1, simply because as shown above, a combination of references does not disclose or suggest all the

limitations of claim 1. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is patentable over Oda in view of Ricordel.

Claims 13 and 20

Applicants submit that the above arguments can be used to show that the Examiner has failed to show that Oda or Ricordel disclose or suggest: *"a processor, responsive to the interrupt signal, for asserting a turn-off signal and an enable signal"* wherein the turn-off signal is directed at a power management unit and the enable signal is directed to a timing unit, as recited in claim 13, and that claim 13 is patentable over Oda in view of Ricordel.

Applicant further submit that claim 20 is patentable over Oda in view of Ricordel for the same reasons as claim 1 since the apparatus in claim 1 would perform the method steps recited in claim 20.

Claims 2-7, 9-12 and 14-19

Claims 2-7 and 9-12 depend directly or indirectly on claim 1; and claims 14-19 depend directly on claim 13. Applicants submit that at least in view of their dependency on claims 1 or 13, claims 2-7, 9-12 and 14-19 are patentable over Oda in view of Ricordel.

Claim 8

Claim 8 depends on claim 1. Applicants submit that the Examiner has failed to show that Metroka discloses or suggests at least *"a processor, responsive to the interrupt signal, for asserting a turn-off signal and an enable signal"* wherein the turn-off signal is directed at a power management unit and the enable signal is directed to a timing unit, as recited in claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the Examiner has failed to show that any combination of Oda, Ricordel and Metroka would have led one of ordinary skill in the art to a device as recited in claim 1, and in particular comprising *"a processor, responsive to the interrupt signal, for asserting a turn-off signal and an enable signal"* wherein the turn-off signal is directed at a power management unit and the enable signal is directed to a timing unit. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that claim 1

is patentable over Oda in view of Riccordel and Metroka and that, at least in view of its dependency, claim 8 is also patentable over Oda in view of Riccordel and Metroka.

New claims

New claim 21 depends on claim 1. Applicants submit that at least in view of its dependency, claim 21 is patentable over the prior art.

* * *

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance and respectfully urge the Examiner to pass this case to issue.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 12-0415. In particular, if this response is not timely filed, the Commissioner is authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) requesting an extension of time of the number of months necessary to make this response timely filed and the petition fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. 12-0415.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Post Office with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

October 25, 2005
(Date of Transmission)

Shannon Tinsley
(Name of Person Transmitting)

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(Signature)

10/25/05
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Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments: New page 3 of the figures; page 3 of the figures with suggested amendment.

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT

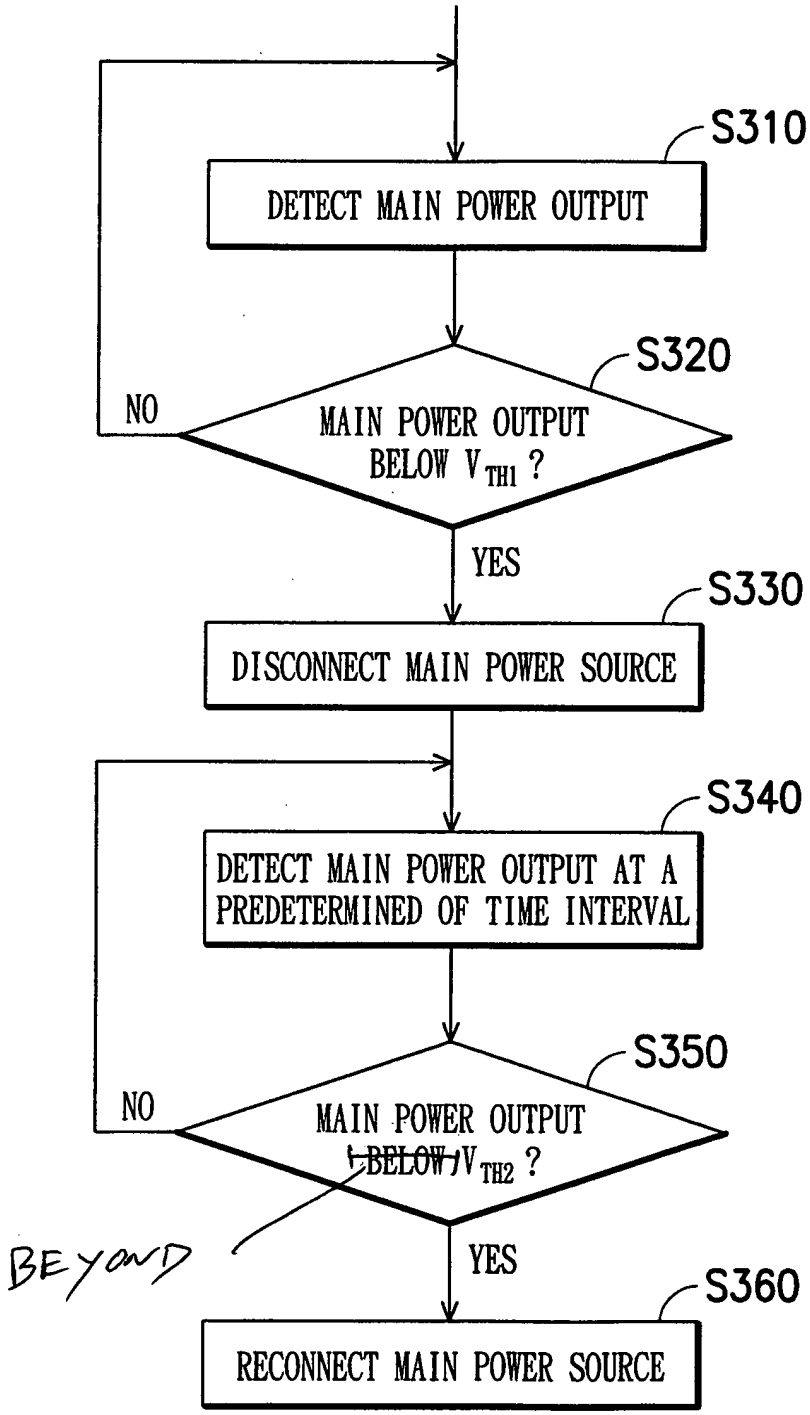

FIG. 3